

prize animals. But he was never known to bet on his or others' horses, preferring always to race for the sheer love of the sport.

S. C. LAW.

# REGINALD INNES POCOCK, F.R.S.

(1863-1947)

(With a plate)

By the death of R. I. Pocock, Zoology has lost a versatile naturalist and the Society a valuable contributor. Reginald Innes Pocock was the son of the Rev. Nicholas Pocock, and was born at Clifton on March 4th, 1863. He was first at school in Clifton and afterwards in Oxford from where he went to University College, Bristol. Shortly after completing his studies there he was appointed in 1885 to the staff of the British Museum (Natural History) and given charge of the *Arachnida* and *Myriopoda*. He took up the study of these invertebrates with great zeal and soon made a name for himself. Between 1887 and 1910, he wrote some thirty papers on the fauna of India and adjacent countries, as well as over a hundred on that of other countries. One of his first contributions dealing with the Indian Region, was on the *Myriopoda* of the Mergui Archipelago collected by Dr. John Anderson, published in 1887. Eight years later he contributed to the Journal an account of the *Galeodidae* inhabiting India and Ceylon, and this was the beginning of Pocock's long connection with the Society. He was specially interested in scorpions and published in the Annals and Magazine of Natural History for 1890 a paper on a collection made in Travancore by Edgar Thurston. About this time he began to correspond with our founder, the late H. M. Phipson, who at his request, appealed to members to collect scorpions. Large numbers of scorpions, alive and dead, were received at the Society's rooms as the result of this appeal and among them were several new species which Pocock described in the Journal for 1897. The first volume of the *Fauna of British India* had been published in 1888 and Pocock was asked to write on the *Arachnida*, etc. He completed his first volume on the Scorpions, *Uropygia*, *Amblypygia* and *Solifugae* and part of the *Araneae* in 1901. Unfortunately before he had finished his second volume, dealing with the remainder of the *Araneae*, Pocock retired from the British Museum and was appointed Superintendent of the Gardens of the Zoological Society in 1904. He had always been interested in Mammals, and while at the Museum had made collecting trips to the Balearic Islands and Spain, in search of small mammals, with the late Oldfield Thomas.

At the Zoological Gardens he had ample opportunity to study live animals, especially his favourite groups, the monkeys, carnivora and ungulates. He took every advantage of examining in the prosectorium any animals which died, making drawings of the soft parts and dissecting the facial and other glands. Henceforth he



The late R. I. Pocock, F. R. S.

